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505 first place, followed, up to the outbreak of the Balkan War, by vessels under the Greek flag. Only Russian-owned vessels trade on the Caspian Sea.

Shipping facilities both on the Black and Caspian Seas were equal to all demands; on the former the majority of the vessels from abroad arrived in ballast, as imports nowhere balanced exports.

Particulars of shipping at the principal ports in 1909 and 1913 are given in Table I of the Appendix (p. 92).

(c) *Telegraphic and Wireless Communications*

206 The Indo-European Telegraph Co. has a line running from Julfa by Erivan, Tiflis, Zugdidi, Sukhum Kale, Tuapse, Ekaterinodar, and Temryuk to Chushka Point, whence two submarine cables belonging to the company cross the Kerch Straits to Yenikale. Land telegraph lines connect Batum with Constantinople *via* Trebizond. A submarine cable connects Baku with Krasnovodsk in Transcaspia.

Batum possesses a wireless telegraph station, installed in 1911, in communication with Sevastopol. A wireless station with a range of 267 miles connects Petrovsk with Fort Alexandrovsk in Transcaspia, and another of the same power was opened at Baku in 1914. Funds were assigned in that year for erecting stations at Novorossiisk and Poti.

(B) INDUSTRY

(1) Labour

(a) *Labour Supply; Immigration and Emigration*

●463 181 Agriculture forms the occupation of the majority of the inhabitants of the Caucasus, though in many cases it is pursued in combination with other activities. The numerous peoples of which the population consists (see above, pp. 8–12)* naturally show very various capacities for labour and prejudices with regard to it. The people of Caucasian or Georgian stock are cultivators of the land and keepers of flocks and herds, with little taste

* [see cat. 116 -- Analyst]

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for industrial work; many of them, especially those of the mountainous districts, are very backward (as are also the Kurds and Ossetes), but the Lesghians and Gruzians are reliable and hard-working, and constitute the best native labour supply. The Armenians, on the other hand, find their most congenial employment in trade and usury, though a good many of them are employed on the oil-fields; the Russian colonists make good agriculturists, but are often idle and intemperate; while the Tatars, who in general are farmers and breeders of sheep and cattle, are also the predominant element on the Baku oil-fields.

The native labour supply, however, is insufficient for the country's requirements on the oil-fields and elsewhere, and there has been a considerable *immigration* for some years past, the chief sources being as follows:

(i) *Russian.* — When Transcaucasia came under Russian rule in 1878, the State replaced the many Abkhasians and Circassians who left the country by considerable numbers of Russian colonists. Russian settlers have been planted by the State on the reclaimed lands of the Mughan and Mil steppes. There is a seasonal movement of some 300,000 labourers from Central Russia into Ciscaucasia for the harvest. *Artels*, or combines of Russian skilled workers, numbering from 10 to 50 persons, move about the country undertaking various sorts of contract work, and earn high wages.

(ii) *Armenian.*—Except in the two or three years following the establishment of the Young Turk Government, there has been a steady stream of immigration from Turkish Armenia to the Caucasus. This immigration increased during the persecution of the Armenians in 1915, but the fate of the refugees since the Turco-German occupation of the Caucasus is uncertain. Echmiadzin, in the Government of Erivan, the residence of the Armenian Patriarch, was regarded as the national capital of the Armenians.

(iii) *Turkish* labour is imported for the tea plantations on the Black Sea coast, and for the copper mines in the Batum district.

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228 The *caviare* industry of the Caspian littoral is declining, but is still important (see p. 62).

339 *Cement* is made at Novorossiisk, Gelendjik, Tuapse, and Yeisk. It is used for lining oil wells, and also for harbour works and other purposes. There were nine large cement factories at Novorossiisk in 1917, with an annual output of 4,600,000 barrels, the most important being the Black Sea Cement Manufactory, the Franco-Russian Cement Manufactory, and the Zep Cement Works.

282 *Leather-work* is a fairly extensive industry, of which the chief centres are Alexandropol, Elisavetopol, Shusha, and Tiflis. Tanning is done at Tiflis, and saddlery is well made in Daghestan and the Black Sea districts.

391 *Metallic and Allied Industries.*—The copper and zinc smelting works have already been mentioned (see pp. 63–64 and 67). There are iron foundries at Ekaterinodar, Baku, Tiflis, Batum, and Armavir. 'Colonist' reaping machines are made at Novorossiisk, and galvanized iron roofing and hardware goods at a factory at Baku. Among manufactures subsidiary to the oil industry are those of oil-cases and oil-cans, carried on at Baku and Batum, and of wire rope, carried on at several factories at Baku. The manufacture of small-arms, once a flourishing industry, is declining, but is still carried on at Tiflis and Nukha and in the bazaars of Daghestan and Sukhum. The number of skilled native workers in enamel, filigree, and inlaid metal-ware is also decreasir

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256 The *milling* industry is second in importance only to the refining of oil. There are many flour-mills worked by water-power; those in Stavropol produce 300,000 tons of flour per annum, and those in Kuban, about the same amount; the mills of the Black Sea district give some 20,000 tons yearly. Besides the flour-mills, there are also mills for crushing sunflower seed, linseed, and cotton seed.

382 The *oil refineries* are the most important manufacturing enterprises in the country. They exist at Baku,